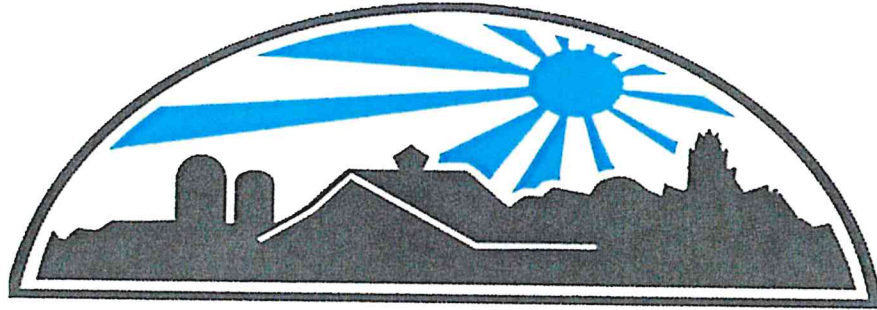


2022 Annual Report



RUSH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

“Committed to Public Health”

ADMINISTRATOR

NURSING

ENVIRONMENTAL

VITAL RECORDS

FINANCIAL

RUSH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Officer	Russell Daugherty, MD
Administrator	Dixie Meyer, RN Kim Roe/Julia Apple
Environmentalist	Dan Burklow/Julia Apple
Staff Nurse	Dixie Meyer, RN
Nurse	Alicia Hill, RN
Clerical/Bookkeeper	Cheryl McKinney
Part-time Vital Records	Amy DeJager
Preparedness	Chuck Kemker
Attorney	Geoffrey W. Wesling

Board Members

Jonathon LeSar, MD-Chairperson

Beth West, RN- Vice-Chairperson

Emily Ellis, PharmD

Bruce Levi

Debbie Burkhardt

Michael Justice

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

As the year 2022 began, the Rush County Health Department was still in the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Our staff managed to handle the regular business of our department. Several staff changes occurred during 2022.

Julia Apple, Administrator/Environmental Health Specialist resigned in June after nearly four years with the Health Department. Kim Roe accepted the position and began in July after several years at the Indiana Department of Health. Kim was a former employee of RCHD as the EHS. Kim made the decision to return to IDOH in her former position in September.

At the September Health Board meeting, it was decided by the Board that Dixie Meyer, RN would become Administrator/Nursing. The Board voted to create a salary separate for the Administrator position and the Board would appoint this position when needed.

After more than seven years, Sherry McKinney made the decision to retire on January 6, 2023. The Board decided to make Amy DeJager full-time for the remainder of the year to train with Sherry to learn her position. She will then become the full-time Clerical/Book Keeper. Amy has been working since June as the part-time Vital Records.

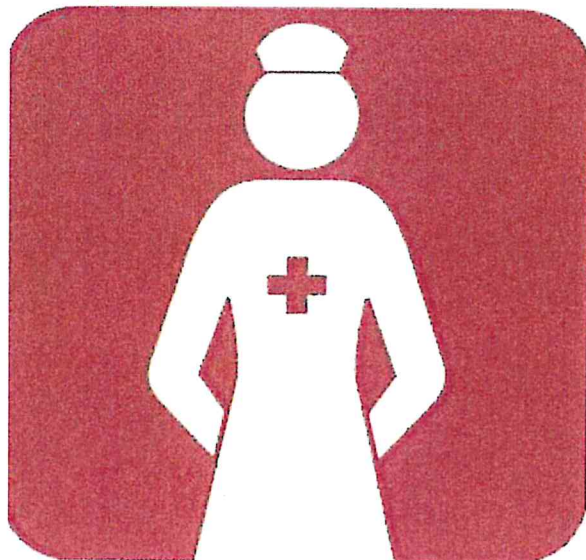
Dan Burklow was hired as the Environmental Health Specialist and began this position on October 31, 2022.

Several Health Board positions also changed during 2022. Carol Yager, Chairperson announced that she would not continue another term as a Board member. Jonathan LeSar, MD agreed to take over as Chairperson. Michael Justice and Bruce Levi became board members in 2022. We are still in the process to find another board member to complete the Rush County Board of Health.

As Administrator, I do attend the Rush County Commissioner's meetings and the Rush County Council meetings to keep our county officials updated on the Health Department. Other meetings are attended such as staff meetings, any grants, Preparedness, and so on.

Submitted by Dixie Meyer, Administrator/Nursing

2022 NURSING REPORT



Rush County Health Department

Nursing Division

2022 Annual Report

As the Pandemic began to slow down, the Nursing Division was still very involved with the Covid-19 cases, tracking, providing education, as well as trying to maintain our normal activities such as homecare, immunizations, and communicable disease investigations and so on.

In the nursing division, there are two full-time Public Health nurses. Dixie Meyer, RN is the full-time nurse and Alicia Hill, RN is full-time, working as nursing part-time and helping in the office part-time. As the part-time vital records clerk was hired in June, Alicia began working nursing full-time. She does fill in as needed in the office.

In 2022, the PHAB Reaccreditation was due. Every effort was made to comply with all the requirements. After much discussion, the Health Board made the decision not to complete the process for reaccreditation. Time, lack of staff, and the cost of reaccreditation was considered.

The Rush County Health Department has maintained our partnership with the health coalition, Rush2Health. Because of the Pandemic, it was safer to meet via Zoom meetings. Most of our meetings were very informative and networking was definitely in full swing via phone calls, emails, and Zoom meetings.

The Nursing Division of the Rush County Health Department has continued to evaluate our programs during this past year. We have worked hard to maintain our services. The goal will always be to promote the health and wellness of our community to make Rush County a healthier place to live.

Registered Nurses

Hours worked- 2849 Miles driven- 6130

Phone calls/office conferences- 1216

Chargeable Office visits- 34

Field visits/ in behalf of- 86

Coronavirus Pandemic 2022

As the Pandemic continued into 2022, the Nursing division continued to track the number of Covid-19 cases, deaths, and educating the public on isolation and quarantine measures as well as masking, social distancing, and hand hygiene, which were a large part of what the nursing staff handled. There were several surges of the Covid-19 virus during 2022. This was mainly due to the virus mutating into different variant strains. Eventually the mask mandate was terminated. Isolation and quarantine measures were adjusted. The number of cases have decreased, partly due to the home Covid-19 tests that are now available. The Rush County Covid-19 Task force meetings were decreased and eventually stopped as Covid-19 numbers decreased. Rush Memorial Hospital continued the Covid-19 testing clinic until December 31, 2022. Grant monies were used to assist this clinic.

As the school year ended in May, RCHD nursing staff continued to work closely with the school nurses. By the time school started in the fall, recommendations had changed for quarantine and isolation. Attendance for students was improved. There was less transmission of the virus at this point. There is still a good working relationship between the school nurses and the public health nurses.

Total cases of Covid-19 which were lab confirmed or clinically diagnosed were 2447 in Rush County. There were 25 deaths of Rush County residents during 2022.

Covid-19 Vaccine

Rush County Health Department continued to offer the Covid-19 vaccine. We primarily use the Moderna vaccine. We continued to offer the booster vaccine as directed by IDOH and CDC, and later the Bivalent vaccine replaced the booster dose. Anyone who completed the initial series of Covid-19 was eligible for the Bivalent vaccine. The homebound patients were contacted and offered the vaccine. We held clinics in conjunction with our flu clinics. The vaccine was also offered by appointment to try to minimize waste of the vaccine. We have also been working with the long term care facilities to vaccinate the residents and staff as needed.

Boosters-98

Bivalent vaccine-169

Total-267

Home Health Services

Home Health Care Services have provided care to twenty-three citizens of Rush County, such as medication set-up, assessing and monitoring their general condition, giving emotional support to the patient as well as their caregivers. The majority of our patients have memory issues and need assistance with medications. Heart disease, diabetes and emotional/mental conditions are major conditions that we help manage. These visits are conducted under each patient's provider's orders and any changes are reported as such. The Home Health Aide resigned in 2021 and it was decided there was not enough need for the HHA service. Our Home Health Care service has enabled people to remain in their home safely.

Home Health Care 12 MONTH REPORT Statistical Review of Visits-January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Patient visits-		Home Care			
Endocrine, Nutritional, Metabolic		204			
Emotional, Mental		111			
Nervous System, Sense Organs		6			
Circulatory System		263			
Respiratory System		86			
Genitourinary System		0			
Skin; Subcutaneous Tissue		0			
Musculoskeletal, Connective Tissue		0			
Neoplasms		0			
Blood, Lymph, Spleen		<u>0</u>			
	Total visits	<u>670</u>			
Not at home-		5			
Patient Age Range-					
20-64		114			
65+years		<u>556</u>			
	Totals	<u>670</u>			
Funding-					
Partial pay		406			
Other (no charge, etc.)		<u>264</u>			
	Totals	<u>670</u>			
Status of Visits					
<u>RN Visits</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>Referred by</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>Discharges</u>	<u>HC</u>
Admits	23	Hospital	5	Hospital	2
Readmits	0	Other HH Agency	2	Other HH Agency	2
<u>Revisits</u>	<u>647</u>	Self-family	6	Self-family	1
Total visits	670	SS Agency	0	LTC	2
		Providers	10	Died	0
		<u>LTC</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>0</u>
		Total Admissions	23	Total Discharges	7

Immunizations

Immunization clinics are held the first Thursday of each month. As the Pandemic continued, our numbers have decreased. The Vaccine for Children Program offers vaccinations at no cost to the recipient. Immunizations are offered to children on Medicaid, have no insurance, or their insurance does not cover vaccines. It has been mentioned by parents that they have started a new job and have no insurance at this time. The vaccines that are offered to children through the age of eighteen, including the following: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, haemophilus influenza B, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, pneumococcal, meningococcal MCV4 and 8, HPV, hepatitis A and B, rotavirus, and influenza.

Immunization Clinics (VFC)	12 sessions
Under 1 year of age	2
1-4 years of age	5
5-9 years of age	12
10 + years of age	<u>61</u>
Total number attending	80
Total vaccines given	140

Private Vaccine

Each year the health department offers vaccines that are purchased with grant money. Vaccines are given by appointment. All ages are welcome to receive these vaccines at no cost. Donations are accepted to help deter the costs. This year, the High Dose Influenza vaccine was offered as well as Influenza vaccine, Pneumovax-23, and Tdap. The nurses do go to different locations to offer influenza and pneumonia vaccines such as businesses for their employees, homecare patients and any homebound when notified.

Flu vaccine	Regular-118	High dose-80
Pneumovax-23	14	
Tdap (private)	15	

The following list is where the Rush County Health Department nurses gave the Flu and Pneumonia vaccines.

Anderson Township Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry
Courthouse employees
Commons Apartments
Shares
Waters of Rushville (formerly Miller's Merry Manor)

Tuberculosis

The Rush County Health Department has maintained Tuberculosis Control as we have for many years. The Indiana State Department of Health guidelines are followed. The extra-pulmonary case of active tuberculosis was closely monitored and Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) was continued via Zoom Calls and in-person visits. All TB meds were taken daily and every dose taken is observed by the nurses. TB medications were given under a provider's orders and any changes were reported. All information is reported to IDOH via NBS website as with all communicable disease reporting. The IDOH Regional TB nurse has worked closely with our department and was vital in providing our nurses with up to date information to handle this case properly. By the end of May, this patient completed almost one year of TB therapy and was released.

2021 DOT visits-113	DOT Zoom calls-91	Total-204
2022 DOT visits-17	DOT Zoom calls-131	Total-148
Total doses taken-352		

Mantoux testing is offered and any positives are followed up with chest X-rays and further follow-up. Any treatment of Latent TB is ordered through IDOH and education on the medication is done with each latent TB case that decides to take the preventative treatment. The following is what testing our department administered and the results:

	Tested	Negative	Positive	Did not return
Employment	26	25	0	1
Miscellaneous (College, Daycare families, Foster care, Rehab, & etc)	9	8	0	1
Follow-up	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	33	0	2

Communicable Disease Investigations

Rush County Health Department investigates communicable disease cases in our county, according to the ISDH Communicable Disease Rule. NBS (NEDSS Based System) is used and vital in tracking communicable disease in the county. Monkey Pox was a concern during 2022. We were notified of one possible exposure to Monkey Pox that was monitored for symptoms. There were no active cases of Monkey Pox in Rush County. The Indiana University Student Epidemiology Response Team (IU-SERT) has been assisting our county in conducting Salmonellosis, Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia Coli (STEC), Listeriosis, Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome, and Typhoid/Paratyphoid Fever case investigations. Graduate Student Investigators (GSI) which is part of the Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis Program are investigating Hepatitis B and C cases that meet their criteria. RCHD investigates the rest of the cases. Both of these programs are very helpful to our department. As you can see below, animal bites and Hepatitis C are the most frequent cases investigated. Lead cases have increased as the new guidelines were implemented. COVID-19 cases were the majority of the cases during the Pandemic. The following table is the Case Status Report.

Disease/Condition	Confirmed	Not a Case	Probable	Suspect	Unknown	Total
2019 Clinical Novel Coronavirus	1	0	0	0	0	1
2019 Novel Coronavirus	1870	60	576	0	0	2506
Animal Bites	37	1	0	0	0	38
Campylobacteriosis	4	0	2	0	0	6
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive	2	0	3	0	0	2
Hepatitis B virus infection, Chronic	1	0	2	0	0	3
Hepatitis C Virus Infection, past or present	5	0	5	0	4	14
Histoplasmosis	1	1	1	0	0	3
Influenza-Associated Death	1	0	0	0	0	1
Latent Tuberculosis Infection	2	0	0	1	0	3
Lead	5	7	1	10	0	23
Salmonellosis, excluding S.typhi and S.paratyphi	2	0	0	0	1	3
Shigellosis	1	0	0	0	0	1
Strep pneumoniae, invasive	4	0	0	0	0	4
Total	1,936	70	587	11	5	2,609

Workshops, Consultations, and Community Activities

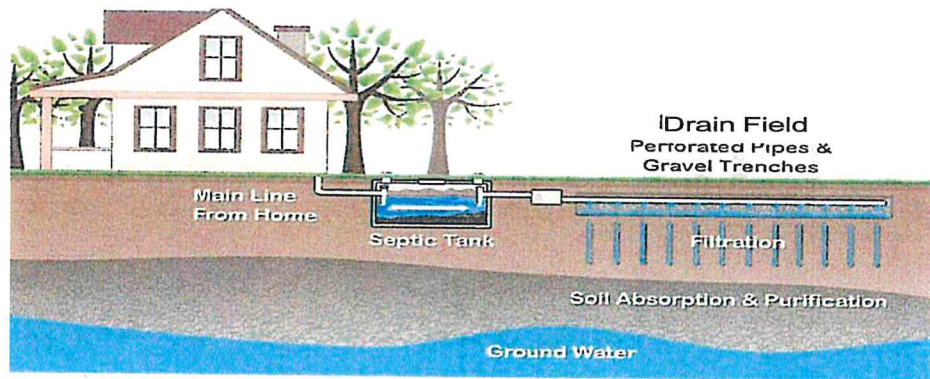
Many of these meetings/workshops met via Zoom during the Pandemic.

AH	DM	Staff meetings
	DM	Commissioner's meetings
	DM	Council meetings
AH	DM	Health Board meetings
	DM	Rush2Health meetings
AH	DM	ISDH Webinar: Updates and School
	DM	Rush County Covid-19 Task Force
	DM	RMH Covid-19 Vaccine meeting
	DM	Covid-19 Vaccine Site Visit
AH	DM	Pediatric Surge Tabletop meeting
	DM	DEA Drug Takeback Day
AH	DM	World TB Day
AH		Lead Training with IDOH
	DM	Rush County Client Consultation meeting
	DM	Caring for Rush County
AH	DM	Emerson Health Fair
AH		RMH Health Fair
AH	DM	Local Public Health Leadership Symposium-Fall
	DM	PHAB meeting via Zoom
	DM	IDOH PHAB discussion via Zoom
	DM	District 6 HCC meeting
AH	DM	Immunization QI Site Visit
AH	DM	Vaccine QI meeting via Zoom
		Vaccine QI Training-
	DM	HPV
AH		Pneumonia
AH	DM	VFC Site Visit
AH		Pink Book Training
AH	DM	IDOH Epidemiologist meeting
AH	DM	IHEPS-Indiana Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Symposium

2022 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Dan Burklow
EHS/Food Inspector

Conventional Septic System



The Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) has broad responsibilities for the prevention and suppression of conditions, which could threaten the health of the citizens of Rush County. Areas include private sewage disposal, retail and temporary food establishment permits and inspections, food-borne illnesses, mosquito surveillance, well water safety, complaints pertaining to the health and well-being of our citizens as well as public and semi-public swimming pool inspections. Additional responsibilities include being able to answer questions regarding the health departments role within the community as well as a broad range of questions pertaining to many of the aforementioned areas of responsibility within the health department, permitting and inspection of tattoo establishments and tattoo artists as well as oversight on the environmental cleanup of toxins left behind at a methamphetamine manufacturing site.

Private Sewage Disposal Ordinance of Rush County, the policies and procedures are regulated by the Residential On-Site Sewage Systems Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3. The Environmental Health Specialist reviews soil scientist reports, prepares minimum specification sheets for all on-site meetings, holds on-site meetings with installers and homeowners (or the homeowner's agent), checks plan reviews submitted by the installers following the on-site meeting, issues septic permits, and oversees the final installation of the tank sets, soil absorption fields and subsurface drainages. This all applies to new sites, repairs, and hook-up replacements of private septic systems.

In 2022, 44 residential on-site septic applications were submitted to the health department for consideration. Applications covered 16 replacement, 26 new residential on-site systems, 1 commercial on-site system, and 1 hook-up from a pool house addition. Of these 44, a total of 27 were moved to a finished/complete status. 17 of the 44 will carry over to the 2023 septic season.

47 soil reports from registered soil scientists were submitted to the department for review. There was 1 dye test performed in 2022.

The Environmental Health Specialist works closely with the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) District Field Staff when concerns arise with on-site plan reviews, soil absorption fields (SAF), subsurface drainages, and final inspections.

All food permit holders in Rush County are charged according to Rush County Ordinance #2015-2. Fees for annual food permits and temporary food vendors are outlined in categories of Full Time Food Establishment, Caterer/Mobile Vendor, Mobile Pre-Packaged Frozen Food, Farmers Market Frozen Meat/Vegetables and Cider, First Time Food Permit (last quarter of year) and Temporary Food Permit.

A total of 95 annual food permits were issued in 2022, 81 profit and 14 not for profit. 44 Temporary food permits were issued throughout the year for different food vendors at festivals and the county fair.

Food inspections follow the Indiana State Department of Health Guidelines for Food Safety and the Rush County Ordinance. A combined total of 66 food safety inspections were completed during the year. These food inspections included for profit and non-for-profit food establishments both annual and temporary permitted. A total of 3 re-inspections were completed. A total of 14 critical violations, and 72 non-critical violations were discovered during these inspections. Most critical violations were corrected at the time of inspection or may require additional inspections. The following indicates the top violations for Rush County Retail Food

Establishments in no particular order.

Statute Number	Violation Description
191	No date mark
146	Food Labeling
187	Hot/Cold holding temps 41-135
229	Clean ability of food contact items
433	Mops suspended for drying, to prevent bacteria growth.
173	Cross Contamination

The CDC has determined that 60% of all food-borne illness can be attributed directly to the personal hygiene and health of the food establishment employee. As a result, the food establishments with extensive employee handling of raw ingredients should be inspected more frequently than those establishments serving pre-packaged or non-potentially hazardous foods. ISDA District Food Protection Field Staff and ISDH Food Specialist continue to work with the local environmental Health Specialist to insure proper food inspections.

The EHS oversees public and semi-private swimming pool inspections. There are currently two public swimming pools in Rush County. Inspections were held at each pool with both pools passing.

In addition, the duties under Indiana's Methamphetamine rule (318 IAC 1-1) with respect to environmental cleanup of toxic waste left behind at a clandestine drug manufacturing site are under the EHS division. In 2022, the department did not receive any Indiana State Police Occurrence Report that indicated Meth Lab had been found in any residence in Rush County. The EHS investigates all formal written complaints dealing with all environmental and food issues. This year there were a total of 3 written complaints received by the Health Department. All complaint follow ups were made by the Rush County EHS.

Tattoo establishments and tattoo artists are to maintain annual permits and be inspected yearly through the health department. The Environmental Health Specialist oversees this operation. There are currently (0) permitted establishment in Rush County.

Dan Burklow obtained 5 certifications in 2022 pertaining to the EHS/Food inspector position. He has attended 4 different conferences and orientations as well. For 2023 the goal is to obtain the Category 8 certification through the Indiana State Chemist to allow us to start testing mosquitos in our area for West Nile.

Dan Burklow got hired on October 31, 2022, and since employment has been involved with all aspects of septic systems from permitting to final inspections. New code and legislation has also been a large part of learning how it is going to impact upcoming and current proposed septic systems. He has also been involved in food inspections, and has worked with surrounding counties to familiarize himself with current food code and standards set by the state.

Telephone calls, meetings, and reports continue to fill open spaces in the Environmental Health Services daily routine.

The goal of Environmental Health Services and the Environmental Health Specialist is to continue to strengthen commitment by providing our Rush County Citizens with a Health Department Staff dedicated to the well-being of the citizens of Rush County. The EHS as well as the Health Department staff strives to be a valuable resource to Rush County through cooperation and communication with consumers, state and federal agencies as well as the medical and law enforcement community, thus continuously educating and helping to prevent conditions which could threaten the health of the people of Rush County.

Rush County Environmental Health recap Annual Report 2022

On Site Septic Systems

Septic Applications	44
New Soil reports	47
Permits Issued	27
Permits Canceled	0
Dye Tests	0
Replace/Repairs	16
Hook Ups	1
Commercial	1
New System	26
Installed	27

Food

Annual Permits	
Profit/Non Profit	81
Routine Food Inspections	66
Re-Inspections	3
Temporary Permits	44
Temporary Inspections	N/A
Pre Operational Inspections	N/A
Critical Violations	14
Non Critical Violations	72
New Food Establishments	2
Closed Food Establishments	1
Ownership Change	1

2022 VITAL RECORDS REPORT



RUSH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

VITAL RECORDS REPORT FOR 2022

Beginning with the year of 1882, Rush County has recorded, and made available to the public, births and deaths in Rush County. Although statistics have advanced to electronic records, we continue to maintain the value on manual archives, housed in books convenient for public viewing.

The Law mandates an "Open Book" Policy, the exception being protected information, such as adoptions and communicable diseases.

The year of 2022 brought us nine (9) Births, three (3) Male and six (6) Female. Three (3) Free Birth Certificates were issued, as we waive the cost for the first Birth Certificate received, following a new birth. There were no Stillbirths reported.

Rush County recorded zero (0) Adoptions, two (2) Amendments to Births and zero (0) Name changes by Court Order.

One hundred and eighteen (118) Deaths were reported for 2022; sixty-two (62) were Males and fifty-six (56) were Females. This compares to one hundred and sixty-two (162) in 2021. Of those deaths, twenty-six (26) were reported as Coroner Cases, with four (4) being Autopsy Cases.

One free Death Certificate is issued to Veterans who served in the U. S. Armed Forces for Veteran Administration benefits. Seventeen (17) were issued in 2022.

Each month a list of persons that became deceased within Rush County is provided to the Social Security Administration in Richmond, and is also furnished to the Auditor and Clerk of Rush County. The Auditor uses this information to purge names from the exemption list. The Clerk removes these names from their registry of residents.

Vital Statistics is required to pay a Coroner's Fee for the Coroner's Continuing Education Program each year. That cost is currently \$2.25 per Death Certificate.

In 2019 we started using PayGov.US, this allows us to accept credit card payment by phone or walk-in.

The Staff within our office assists in helping all customers when needed. We strive to help with the needs presented by the Public

REPORT OF VITAL RECORDS STATISTICS 2022

BIRTHS

Births Recorded: 9

Females: 6

Males: 3

Birth Certificates Issued: 209

Uncertified Birth Certificates: 0

Free Birth Certificates Issued: 3

Adoptions: 0

Amendments: 2

Name Change by Court Order: 0

DEATHS

Deaths Recorded: 118

Females: 56

Males: 62

Death Certificates Issued: 537

Uncertified Death Certificates Issued: 0

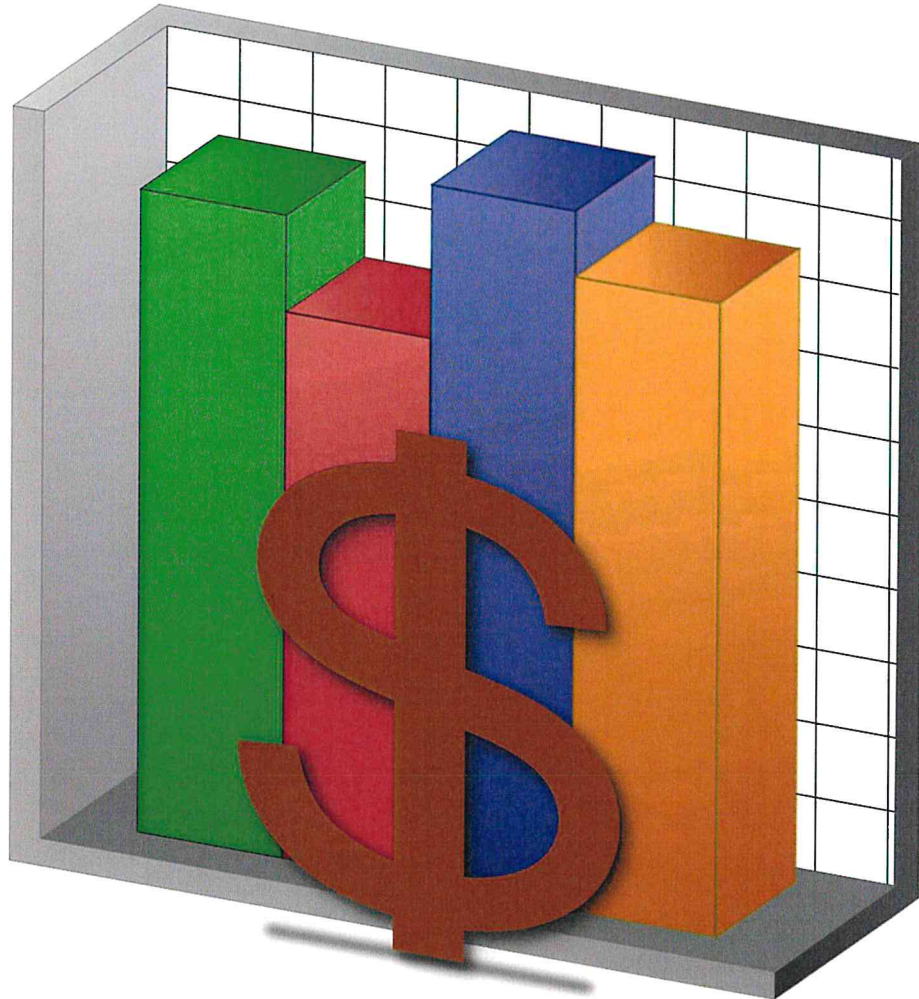
Free VA Death Certificates Issued: 17

Coroner Cases: 26

Autopsy Cases: 4

Stillbirths: 0

2022 FINANCIAL REPORT



RUSH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Financial Report – January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

DISBURSEMENTS

Gross Payroll	\$224,494.69
Health Insurance	\$29,436.00
Social Security	\$15,172.85
Supplies	\$1,204.73
Copier/Computer Supplies	\$666.50
Environmental Health	\$1,007.78
Postage	\$363.92
Travel	\$28.56
Repairs/ Maint	\$30.00
Telephone	\$2,229.27
Insurance	\$227.00
Litigation Fees	\$500.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$235.00
Attorney	\$4,500.00
Health Board	\$1,510.00
Registration/Conference Fees	\$2,496.81
Furniture/Equipment	\$3,245.50
Unappropriated Funds	\$35,163.10
Contract Service	\$500.00
GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AS OF DEC. 31, 2022	\$323,011.71
<hr/>	
FUND BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2022	\$170,678.73
2022 TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$316,420.04
2022 Total Disbursements	\$323,011.71
FUND BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022	\$164,087.06

RUSH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FINANACIAL REPORT January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022
FUND BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2022
 \$368,148.00

RECEIPTS

VITAL RECORDS – BIRTH	\$4,465.00
VITAL RECORDS – DEATH	\$9,531.75
MISC. INCOME	\$1,248.20
HOME NURSING	\$2,180.00
OFFICE INJECTIONS	\$580.00
SEPTIC PERMIT	\$4,230.00
FOOD PERMIT	\$9,705.00
TATTOO & PIERCING PERMIT	\$75.00
TATTOO ARTIST	\$300.00
OFFICE RECEIPTS	\$32,314.95
LESS \$2.25 per Death Certificate	\$ 1,208.25
Total Office Receipts	\$ 31,106.70
Property Taxes	\$101,795.96
Excise Tax (CVET&LICENSE)	\$10,026.74
Bank Tangibles	\$578.30
TOTAL	\$224,640.30

GRAND TOTAL OF RECEIPTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022